WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for detecting gaps in data, comprising:

defining a first stream and a second stream from a network topology;

calculating a data loss for each stream wherein the data loss is calculated between a next event and a last event in the stream;

processing each stream based upon the calculated data loss.

2. The method of claim 1, further comprising associating data with the first stream or the second stream.

3. The method of claim 2, further comprising stopping the processing of every stream if the first or second stream's calculated data loss is greater than a first user defined threshold.

4. The method of claim 3, wherein the processing resumes according to a second user defined threshold.

5. The method of claim 2, wherein the data loss is a time difference between the occurrence of the next event and the last event.

6. The method of claim 5, further comprising stopping the processing of every stream if the first or second stream's calculated time difference is greater than a first time period.

7. The method of claim 6, further comprising storing any data received while processing is stopped.

8. The method of claim 7, further comprising sending a notification.

9. The method of claim 7, further comprising resuming processing of the first or second stream upon reception of more data associated with the first or second stream.

10. The method of claim 7, further comprising resuming the processing of each stream in which the calculated time difference is not greater than the first time period.

11. The method of claim 7, wherein the processing resumes after a second time period.

12. A system for extracting a video signal from compressed video data, operable for:

defining a first stream and a second stream from a network topology;

calculating a data loss for each stream wherein the data loss is calculated between a next event and a last event in the stream;

processing each stream based upon the calculated data loss.

13. The system of claim 12, further comprising associating data with the first stream or the second stream

14. The system of claim 13, further comprising stopping the processing of every stream if the first or second stream's calculated data loss is greater than a first user defined threshold.

15. The system of claim 14, wherein the processing resumes according to a second user defined threshold.

16. The system of claim 13, wherein the data loss is a time difference between the occurrence of the next event and the last event.

17. The system of claim 16, further comprising stopping the processing of every stream if the first or second stream's calculated time difference is greater than a first time period.

18. The system of claim 17, further comprising storing any data received while processing is stopped.

19. The system of claim 18, further comprising sending a notification.

20. The system of claim 18, further comprising resuming processing of the first or second stream upon reception of more data associated with the first or second stream.

21. The system of claim 18, further comprising resuming the processing of each stream in which the calculated time difference is not greater than the first time period.

22. The system of claim 18, wherein the processing resumes after a second period of time.

23. A software system or computer program for extracting a video signal from compressed video data, comprising a tangible storage medium containing instructions translatable for:

defining a first stream and a second stream from a network topology;

calculating a data loss for each stream wherein the data loss is calculated between a next event and a last event in the stream;

processing each stream based upon the calculated data loss.

24. The software system or computer program of claim 23, further comprising associating data with the first stream or the second stream.

25. The software system or computer program of claim 24, further comprising stopping the processing of every stream if the first or second stream's calculated data loss is greater than a first user defined threshold.

26. The software system or computer program of claim 25, wherein the processing resumes according to a second user defined threshold.

27. The software system or computer program of claim 24, wherein the data loss is a time difference between the occurrence of the next event and the last event.

28. The software system or computer program of claim 27, further comprising stopping the processing of every stream if the first

or second stream's calculated time difference is greater than a first time period.

29. The software system or computer program of claim 28, further comprising storing any data received while processing is stopped.

30. The software system or computer program of claim 29, further comprising sending a notification.

31. The software system or computer program of claim 29, further comprising resuming processing of the first or second stream upon reception of more data associated with the first or second stream.

32. The software system or computer program of claim 29, further comprising resuming the processing of each stream in which the calculated time difference is not greater than the first time period.

33. The software system or computer program of claim 29, wherein the processing resumes after a second period of time.